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MCCUTCHEN FAMILY PAPERS
1818-1958

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INTRODUCTION

The McCutchen Family Papers is composed of the papers of the descendants of John McCutchen (-1755), emigrant from Scotland, possibly through Ulster, Ireland, and a member of Captain Wilson' s 7th Company, Virginia Militia, in 1742. These records, collected and used by Miss Hildegard Smith, a McCutchen descendent, as primary source material for her book, *The McCutchen Trace*, were given by Miss Smith to the Tennessee State Library and Archives. The materials in this finding aid measure 1.2 linear feet.

There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the McCutchen Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The McCutchen Family Papers, of about 2,000 items for the dates 1818-1958, is composed of accounts, bills, family business correspondence (1829-1872), a diary (1814-1815), inventories of estates, a military pass, an oath of allegiance, obituaries and funeral notices, records of the Harpeth Presbyterian Church (Williamson County), the Presbyterian Synod, the Nashville-Hillsborough Turnpike Company, land, marriage, school, slave records, wills (1836-1861), a 1958 Yearbook for the Children of American Colonists, and other miscellaneous records.

The majority of the papers in this collection belong to James McCutchen (1796-1864), second son of Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen. James, although not a lawyer as far as we know, was administrator of many estates, and numerous records of his business dealings are included in this collection as well as his records as Treasurer of the Nashville-Hillsborough Turnpike Company. Many letters from his brothers and sisters and their children concern financial help which he gave them.

Three Civil War letters (1862-1863) found with James McCutchen's papers seem to be written by families who had relatives fighting on the Federal side. Other letters for the Civil War period can be found in the correspondence listed under the name of the writer.

The collection includes a diary (1814-1815) which gives troop movements during the War of 1812 and a brief entry about the Battle of New Orleans. It is thought to have been kept by the above James McCutchen.

The correspondence includes 47 letters (1839-1864) from Patrick Henry McCutchen of Oxford, Mississippi, son of Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen; 9 letters (1856-1860) from S.B. McCutchen of Paris, Tennessee, brother of the above James and Patrick Henry; 9 letters (1857-1861) from Catherine Mallory, Dyer County, Tennessee, daughter of Mary (Polly) McCutchen and William Caldwell; and letters from numerous other relatives and friends, primarily concerning family matters. Mary Caldwell mentions Robert Patton McCutchen (1784-), brother of the above James, who was a member of Johnston's command and was in the Battles of Chattanooga, Chickamauga, and others.

Volumes I and II of Miss Hildegard Smith's book, *The McCutchen Trace*, which are based largely upon the materials in this collection, are included for reference.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

James McCutchen

- 1796 May 23. Born to Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen of Davidson County, Tennessee, (land that later became Williamson County). The 1850 Federal Census, however, shows him born in Kentucky.
- 1811 Apprenticed to tailoring business.
- 1814 Entered military service – War of 1812.
- 1823 January 9. Married Ellen Edmiston.
- 1830-1864 Lived in Williamson County; was administrator of many estates; was Treasurer of Nashville-Hillsborough Turnpike Company; and was an active member of the Harpeth Presbyterian Church.
- 1864 Died.

Patrick Henry McCutchen

- 1804 June 28. Born to Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen of Williamson County, Tennessee.
- 1827 November 27. Married Mary Buford Reid; was first Probate Judge of Lafayette County, Mississippi.
- 1833 February 24. Died and was buried near Oxford, Mississippi.

Samuel Bell McCutchen

- 1809 Born to Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen of Williamson County, Tennessee.
- 1830 Married Elizabeth Lazenby; lived in West Tennessee.
- 1871 Died.

Samuel McCutchen

- 1759 April 13. Born in Virginia to James and Grisal McCutchen. Twin sister's name was Margaret.
- 1780 Revolutionary War service.
- 1785 Living in Davidson County, Tennessee.
- 1791 August 6. Married Catherine Bell.
- 1811 Helped organize Harpeth Presbyterian Church, Williamson County, Tennessee; surveyed land and built roads with his two brothers, Patrick and James; credited with helping lay out the McCutchen Trace, as well as having laid out the first part of the famous Natchez Trace.
- 1816 Died and was buried on his own land, on the Hillsboro Pike, Williamson County, Tennessee

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

Accounts

1. Account Book, 1818-1823
2. Bills and Receipts, McCutchen family (ca. 1830-1859)
3. Bills and Receipts, McCutchen family (ca. 1830-1859)
4. Bills and Receipts, various estates (ca. 1830-1859)
5. Checks and Orders, 1866

Box 2

Business Papers, Legal Documents, and Records

1. A Guide to the Collection – The McCutchen Trace, volumes I and II
2. Appointments – Agency and Guardianship, 1827-1857
3. Church Records – Harpeth Presbyterian and Presbyterian Synod
4. Clippings
5. Diary – James McCutchen, 1814-1815
6. Envelopes, stamps, and business cards
7. Estate Papers – administered by James McCutchen
8. Land Records, 1801-1855
9. Marriage License, 1866
10. Military Pass, 1862
11. Miscellaneous Items
12. Mortgage – Furniture Deed of Trust
13. Oath of Allegiance, 1864
14. Obituaries and Funeral Notices, 1855-1862
15. Prescriptions, Recipes, and Remedies
16. Promissory Notes
17. Sale Notices, 1827-2857
18. School Records
19. Slave Records
20. Stock Record –Nashville-Hillsborough Turnpike Company, 1862
21. Suit Declaration and Subpoenas
22. Wills, 1836-1861
23. Yearbook – Children of the American Colonists, 1958

Box 3

Correspondence

1. Genealogical correspondence
2. Civil War letters, 1862-1863 (see also name index for letters of this period)
3. Allen, Nelson – Byrn, N.W.
4. Caldwell, Mary (Polly)
5. Caldwell, Mary Jane
6. Caldwell, J.P. – Cotten, B.F.
7. Craig, W.H. – Herron, W.W.
8. Hodges, C.T. – McClellan, William
9. McCutchen, Catherine – McCutchen, Nancy
10. McCutchen, Patrick Henry
11. McCutchen, Priscilla – McCutchen, Washington
12. McCutchen, William – McCutchen, William Henry
13. McEwen, R.H. – McLaughlin, M.
14. Mallory, Catherine – Murry, John
15. Ogden, Eliza O. – Richards, R.B.
16. Robb, E.C. – Walker, William
17. Watson, James – Wyatt, Joseph

NAME INDEX

This is a name index of only the correspondence in the McCutchen Family Collection, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. The figures in parentheses denote the number of letters from that person; the dates are for the period covered by the letters. In cases of possible confusion because of similarity of names, some differentiation has been indicated by giving the names of parents, dates of birth and death, or place of residence.

Allen, John (3), 1819-1836
Allen, Nelson (7), 1856-1859
Allen, Robert B. and Sarah (1), 1842
Bell, D.R. (1), 1857
Bell, J.E. (5), 1836-1861
Bell, Robert and Grissel (2), 1848-1853
Berry, John M. (1), 1856
Bright, David (2), 1861-1872
Bright, Ellen E. (1), 1858
Bryn, N.W. (2), 1853-1857
Caldwell, Mary ("Polly"), (19), 1852-1864
Caldwell, Mary Jane (10), 1851-1858, daughter of above Mary Caldwell
Caldwell, J.P. (1), 1866
Caldwell, Mattie A. (1), 1852?
Caldwell, R.M. (1), 1861 (from Camp Brown, near Union City)
Caldwell, William (6), 1853-1856
Cayce, Thomas D. (1), (n.d.)
Cliffe, Dr. D.B. (1), 1887
Cotton, B.F. (1), 1858
Craig, W.H. (1), (1861)
Crockett, Annie Bell (1), 1925 (Genealogical Correspondence Folder)
Dunavant, Martha A. (2), 1857-1858
Dunavant, Mat A. (1), 1860?
Elnobe, Uffert (1), (n.d.)
Ewing, J.A. (2), 1860
Garmain, Stephen (1), 1829
Harbrook, J.G. (1), 1859
Harrison, W.A. (1), 1855
Herreld, Edmiston (1), 1833
Hendrick, J.T. (?) (1), 1862
Henley, Thomas D. (2), 1833
Herron, W.W. (2), 1856-1860
Hodges, C.T. and Elizabeth (4), 1858-1860
Hoges, Elizabeth (1), 1856

Hudiburgh, L.C. (1), 1850
Johnston, M (?) (1), 1852
Key, Jane (1), n.d.
Landram, Adeline (1), 1857
Lawrence, William B. (1), 1869
McClellan, William (1), 1853
McCutchen, Catherine (1), 1854
McCutchen, Ellen (2), 1861-1866?
McCutchen, James (1), 1836, son of John and Elizabeth Weir McCutchen
McCutchen, James (7), 1837-1859, son of Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen
McCutchen, Jesse M. (1), 1832
McCutchen, "Kittie" (Nancy Catherine) (1), 1861
McCutchen, M.H. (wife of John B. McCutchen) (2), 1859-1861
McCutchen, Nancy (1), 1859
McCutchen, Patrick (48), 1839-1865 (Patrick Henry, son of Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen), Oxford, Mississippi
McCutchen, Priscilla (2), 1857-1864, daughter of above Patrick Henry
McCutchen, Sarah A. (5), 1855-1860
McCutchen, S.B. (9), 1856-1860, Paris, Henry County, Tennessee
McCutchen, S.E. (2), 1860-1872
McCutchen, S.E. (1), 1923 (Genealogical Correspondence Folder)
McCutchen, Washington (3), 1851-1859
McCutchen, William (3), 1856-1859, son of John and Agnes Porter McCutchen
McCutchen, William H. (1), 1832, son of Samuel and Catherine Bell McCutchen
McCutchen, William Harrison (5), 1837-1844, son of John and Rhoda Denton McCutchen (1814-1891)
McCutchen, William Henry (6), 1859-1861, son of Samuel Bell McCutchen
McEwen, R.H. (1), 1857
McLaughlin, Rebeka and Margret (3), 1857-1860
Mallory, Catherine B. (9), 1857-1861
Manning, Smith (2), 1848-1851
Meek, Ada C. (5), 1931-1934 (Genealogical Correspondence Folder)
Miller, Thomas (1), 1857
Motheral, John (1), 1856
Murry, John B. (1), n.d.
Ogden, Eliza C. (1), 1860
Ogden, John W. (2), 1857, preacher
O'Neal, Jane R. (1), 1872
O'Neal, John W. (3), 1841-1842; 1860
Pinkerton, Jane (1), 1831
Pinkerton, John (1), 1836
Pound, John B. (1), 1838
Richards, R.B. (2), 1854-1857

Robb, E.C. (1), 1856
Robb, James (1), 1856
Robb, Julius (1), 1855
Robb, W.H. (2), 1868
Shute, T. (1), n.d.
Simmons, G.J. (1), 1851?
Sparks, F. (1), n.d.
Stuart, George (1), 1847?
Upshaw, Ann H. (4), 1846; 1849; 1856
Walker, Robert (2), 1840-1842
Walker, William (2), 1842-1844
Watson, James (1), 1848
Wilkin, D.F. (2), 1857
Williamson, Mary (1), 1824
Williamson, Sally (1), 1827
Williamson, Thomas (1), 1818
Witherspoon, F.A. (1), 1852
Wood, John H. (3), 1853-1857
Wyatt, Joseph (1), 1830